

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request that the foregoing amendments be made prior to examination of the present application.

After amending the claims as set forth above, claims 1 – 18 are now pending in this application. Support for new claims 9 – 18 can be found throughout the specification, such as at paragraphs 0011, 0013, 0014, and 0016.

Due to a dispute between the present applicants as to who conceived the claimed subject matter, original claims 1 – 8, together with new claims 9 – 18, are substantially identical to claims in U.S. Pat. Appln. Ser. No. 09/948,391 ("the '391 application"), which names only applicants Rybak and Newton as inventors. The present application names applicants Rybak, Goldenberg, and Newton as inventors. This application and the '391 application are both divisional applications of U.S. Pat. Appln. Ser. No. 09/622,613. Therefore, an interference proceeding will be requested between these applications in order for the U.S.P.T.O. to determine who conceived the claimed subject matter.

Applicants now respectfully request an early and favorable action on the merits. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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